

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 2-4, 6 – 16, 18 – 20, and 22;

Please withdraw Claims 25 – 28; and

Please amend Claims 1, 5, 17, 21, 23 and 24, as follows:

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. (Currently Amended) A valve system lifter for use with a cam and a push rod in a combustion engine, the lifter comprising:
 - a lifter body comprising a first metal, the lifter body being adapted for connection to a push rod;
 - a face pad, comprising a second metal different from the first metal, attached to the lifter body for contacting a cam; and
 - a connector material that attaches said face pad to the lifter body, the connector material comprising at least one metal that is different from said first metal and said second metal;
wherein said lifter body is ferrous material selected from the group consisting of cast iron, steel, and stainless steel, and wherein said lifter body is not heat-treated;
wherein said face pad is selected from the group consisting of metal carbide, tungsten carbide, titanium carbide, niobium carbide, tungsten carbide, tantalum carbide, and niobium carbide; and
said connector material comprises three layers, which are first and second layers comprising silver, and a third layer comprising copper between said first and second layers.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled).
4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A valve system lifter as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the connector material third layer comprises a copper, zinc, and cadmium center ~~with outer layers of silver.~~
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Canceled)
16. (Canceled)
17. (Currently Amended) A valve system lifter as in Claim 1[[6]], wherein the face pad is a disc 75 - 150 thousandths of an inches thick, the connector material is 10 - 20 thousandths of an inch thick.
18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)
20. (Canceled)
21. (Currently Amended) A valve system lifter as in Claim 1[[6]], wherein each of the layers comprising silver are 2 - 8 thousandths of an inch thick, and the layer comprising copper is about 10 - 14 thousandths of an inch thick.
22. (Canceled)
23. (Currently Amended) A valve system lifter as set forth in Claim 1[[22]], wherein said connector material comprises silver, copper, cadmium, zinc and nickel.
24. (Currently Amended) A valve system lifter as set forth in Claim 23, wherein said ~~connector includes three layers, which are a central~~ third layer is [[of]] a mixture of said copper, cadmium, zinc and nickel, and said first and second layers are two outer layers on opposing sides of the third ~~central~~ layer comprising silver.
25. (Withdrawn) A method of making a combustion engine lifter, the method comprising:
providing a connector wafer comprising silver;
providing a lifter body of a first metal;
providing a lifter face pad of a second metal different from said first metal;
providing a connector wafer comprising silver in between said lifter body and said face pad; and
induction welding said connector wafer between the lifter body and the lifter face pad,
wherein said silver liquefies and bond the face pad to the body.
26. (Withdrawn) A method as in Claim 25, wherein said connector wafer comprises silver and at least one metal different from said first metal and said second metal.

27. (Withdrawn) A method as in Claim 25, comprising rounding the face pad to have a radiused outer edge.
28. (Withdrawn) A method as in Claim 25, comprising grinding the face pad to have a radius in the range of 55 - 70 inches.